



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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Selectmen Minutes 11-06-2000

7:15 p.m.

Present: Mr. Greeley - Chair, Mr. Lyons - Vice Chair, Mrs. Dias, Mr. Hurd, Mrs. Mahon

Also Present: Mr. Farrington, Mr. Maher, Ms. Cove

The Chairman opened the meeting by introducing and welcoming Town Manager Philip Farrington to his first Selectmen's meeting

FOR APPROVAL

Minutes of Meeting: October 30, 2000

Mrs. Mahon moved to table the matter. SO VOTED

Citizens Advisory Committee for Town Manager Search

Presentation of Gifts

The Chairman asked each member to present a token of the Board's thanks for the service of the committee during the long search for a new Town Manager. The Chairman also asked that the Committee meet one more time to write a post search summary.

Committee members present were: Jane Howard, Chair, Ralph Elwell, Nanci Ortwein, Marie Krepelka, Barbara Goodman, Jack Bowler, Carolyn Simmons, John Deyst, John Dunlap and Caryn Cove. Selectman Dias explained that Harry Barber was unable to be in attendance because he is unwell. Selectman Mahon explained that Martha Scott was unable to be present due to another commitment.

7:30 p.m.

For Discussion: BMC Bike race

Threshold Sports

Jerry Casale, President of Threshold Sports and Robin Morton, Senior Event Director of Threshold Sports, 506 Bethlehem Pike, Fort Washington, PA were present with Jack Bakey, 15 Fountain Road, Arlington to request permission to hold the second BMC bike race in Arlington on July 8, 2001. Mr. Casale indicated that he would like the race to be held in memory of Nicole Reinhart; Ms. Reinhart lost her life in a freak accident while participating in last year's race. Mr. Casale also indicated that if the Board were to grant permission for the race that the event would not start before 11:00 a.m. in order to minimize disruption of area worship services.

Mr. Lyons moved to approve the race for July 8, 2001 and to form a committee comprised of: Town Manager, Town Counsel, Chief of Police, Chief of Fire, Mr. Bakey, a Chamber of Commerce Representative and an Interfaith Committee Representative.

SO VOTED

For Discussion: Patriots Day Celebration

John J. Bilafer, Chair, Millennium Celebration Committee and Town Treasurer was present.

Mr. Hurd moved to transfer the planning duties of the Patriot's Day Parade to the Millennium Celebration Committee.

SO

VOTED

Mrs. Mahon offered to provide a list of current members of the Patriot's Day planning committee to ensure they remained active in the event.

APPOINTMENTS & REAPPOINTMENTS**Appointment - New Election Worker**

Eleanor A. Finnin, 135 Pleasant St. #41, Pct. 8, U
Mrs. Mahon moved approval. SO VOTED

Reappointment – Arlington Arts Council

Robin L. Thompson (term to expire 11/2003)
Mr. Hurd moved approval. SO VOTED

Reappointment – Historic District Commissions

Lynn Sternbergh (term to expire 11/2003)
Mrs. Dias moved approval. SO VOTED

Verizon New England Inc.

Mass. Ave. and Jason St., Petition No. D00-57

Necessary to upgrade underground telecommunications capacity
(all abutters notified)

Chuck O'Connor, Verizon Engineer, 480R Arsenal Street, was present to answer questions. Mr. O'Connor was asked to meet with the Public Works Director to finalize the details of the work. Mr. Lyons moved approval of: Starting at existing manhole number 30/24A, pole number 375/3 on the northerly side of Massachusetts Avenue, near the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Mill Street, place conduit in a southwesterly, then southerly direction, a distance of 163 feet to pole number 50/1, on the Westerly side of Jason Street, subject to all conditions set forth.

SO VOTED

Request for endorsement: New Civic Block Historic District

Historic District Commissions

John L. Worden, 27 Jason Street, Secretary of the Historic District Commissions was present and explained to the Board the proposal for a Civic Block Historic District. Mr. Lyons moved to proceed with the idea very slowly and to get recommendations from the Director of Public Works, Town Manager and Planning and further that the area churches should be contacted about the idea through the Manager's Office; the Manager is to report back on this matter in one month. SO VOTED

Setting of Health Insurance Rate

Health Insurance Advisory Committee

Mr. Lyons moved approval of the rates as presented. SO VOTED

Mr. Lyons expressed that the Town should move towards having a four month balance of funds in the Health Insurance Trust fund.

The Board had several comments and questions. Mrs. Galkowski confirmed that all costs associated with adoption of Chapter 32B of the Mass. General Laws, by law, must be absorbed by the Town.

Mr. Lyons asked that Town Counsel report to the Board on the function and representation, (who should be attending) of the Health Insurance Advisory Committee meetings.

Sargent Kenneth Huges of the HIAC asked questions about how funds are deposited into the trust fund.

The rates are as follows:

8:30 p.m.

CITIZENS OPEN FORUM

Any matter presented for consideration of the Board shall neither be acted upon, nor a decision made the night of the presentation in accordance with the policy under which the Open Forum was established.

Pastor Ross Goodman of St. Paul Lutheran Church, 929 Concord Turnpike was present to inform and request the support of the Board of a program for Sudanese refugees. The Board expressed its enthusiasm and support for the project.

David Whitford, 23 Water Street was present with a petition (listed under correspondence received) outlining many concerns from he and his neighbors about the Domino's Pizza at 671 Massachusetts Avenue. Mr. Hurd moved to send a letter to the establishment requesting: that the air conditioning units be baffled to block noise, that the dumpster area be beautified and litter in the area be immediately cleaned up, and that the neon sign be removed from the front window.

SO VOTED

LICENSES & PERMITS

Request for Drain Layer License

Bay State Engineering, 841 Worcester Rd. #515, Natick
Mr. Hurd moved approval. SO VOTED

Request for 30 Permits for Parking at Russell Common

From 12/1/00 to 2/28/01, Request of Bob Mirak

Bob Mirak of Mirak-Benedetson Development, LLC, 1125 Mass. Ave was present. He explained that at present, he is rescinding his earlier request for 30 permits in the Municipal lot. Mr. Mirak thanked the Board for their consideration.

Town Counsel indicated that he would be reporting to the Board on the Town owned lot on Pond Lane that is currently being used by persons for vehicle storage. The lot was intended to be an overflow lot for the Elks Club and Boys and Girls club after some of their parking was taken away when the bike path was constructed. David Walkinshaw, 4 Monadnock Road was present on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce and commented on the matter.

Mr. Lyons exited the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

TRAFFIC RULES & ORDERS/OTHER BUSINESS

Request for Signage

Follow Up: Frost St. at Winchester Rd.

Mr. Hurd moved to make the area stop signs permanent. SO VOTED

Silk Street Increase in Truck/Bus Traffic

Elizabeth McGaffigan, 32 Silk Street was present to request assistance in preventing trucks from using her end of Silk Street as an unnecessary cut through. Mr. Hurd moved to refer the matter to the police and to form a subcommittee with himself and the neighbors to discuss the matter.

(4-0) SO VOTED

Mr. Lyons returned to the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

For Approval: Proposed Town Web Policy

Bob Sprague, Town Webmaster was present. The Board discussed minor amendments to the proposed draft clarifying the general disclaimer, times for appeals to the Board and the updating of links. Mr. Lyons moved approval as amended. SO VOTED

Request for Appointment of Contact Person/Storm Water Phase II Regulations

Request of the Department of Environmental Protection

Mr. Hurd moved to appoint Mark Shea of the Public Works department to attend meetings on the Town's behalf. SO VOTED

Mr. Lyons expressed his grave concern over the impact of the new guidelines being imposed by the Environmental Protection Agency that will have tremendous fiscal impact on cities and towns. He requested the manager keep the Board apprised of the matter.

For Discussion: Policy for Use of Dallin Studio

Mrs. Mahon moved that if and when a member of the Board of Selectmen misses their turn to film a show in the month of their turn in rotation that 1.) the next Selectmen in rotation can take the spot of that Selectman 2.) that if a Selectman has a taped show ready to be aired that the show be put on in lieu of the missing Selectman's show.

Mr. Greeley, Mr. Hurd and Mrs. Mahon voted in the affirmative, Mr. Lyons and Mrs. Dias voted in the negative. (3-2) SO VOTED

Correspondence Received

Brian Bernard Letter regarding Arlington officer Be Rec'd
23 William
Fairfield Drive,
Wenham

Mr. Lyons commented that he did not like the tone of Mr. Bernard's letter.

David Driscoll Approvals of School Building Assistance Grant Applications Be Rec'd
DOE

Testa Family Tree root concerns Be Rec'd
18 Dorothy Rd.
The Board asked the Town Manager to look into the matter further.

Robert Sheehan Addition of NESN to cable line up Be Rec'd
RCN

Martha Goldsmith Commonwealth's Search for Lease Space Be Rec'd
Director, Office
Of Leasing and
State Office Planning

Bob Durand Mugar Parcel-ENF Certificate Be Rec'd
Secretary of
Environmental
Affairs

Larissa Brown Invitation to join them in sponsoring Civic Initiative for a Be Rec'd
Chair Livable New England
Cambridge
Planning Board
Mrs. Mahon moved to endorse the initiative. SO VOTED

David Whitford Problems regarding Domino's Pizza Be Rec'd
23 Water Street 671 Massachusetts Avenue

Mr. Lyons moved receipt of correspondence. SO VOTED

New Business

Mr. Hurd indicated that he would be reporting to the Board on the Henderson Street Bridge matter on November 20th. Mrs.

Mahon indicated that the City of Cambridge Chief of Staff should be in contact with the Town within seven days after his return to work on November 8th.

Mr. Hurd reported to the Board on a meeting he visited with the Arlington Seniors. One of the concerns they had was the lack of short-term parking. Mr. Hurd moved to erect signs on Academy and Maple Streets indicating in 2 Hour parking only. SO VOTED

Mrs. Dias reminded those present of the Elder Conference to be held on Thursday, November 9th at the Town Hall. The conference is being sponsored by Attorney General Tom Riley and will deal with fraud issues and ways seniors can protect themselves.

Mr. Lyons complimented the Arlington School Committee for their public support to delay implementation of the MCAS test as a requirement for high school graduation.

Mr. Lyons moved to support the Carr Institute of Harvard meeting with the Town Manager to discuss conducting an audit on the Town of Arlington. SO VOTED
The Carr Institute deals with issues of racism.

Update on Mugar Parcel/Meeting with Mugar Advisory Committee

Alan McClennen, Jr., Director of Planning and Community Development

Executive Session - 10:10 p.m. – Mr. Lyons moved to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing the value of real property and that the Board reconvene in open session for the sole purpose of adjournment.

On Mr. Lyons motion:

Mr. Greeley: yes

Mr. Lyons: yes

Mrs. Dias: yes

Mr. Hurd: yes

Mrs. Mahon: yes

The Board returned to open session at 11:50 p.m.

Mrs. Mahon moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 p.m.

A true record. Attest:

Caryn E. Cove
Board Administrator